

**REPORT/RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
AND RECORD OF ACTION**

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February 3, 2004

FROM: Rudy Lopez, Director
Department of Behavioral Health

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR PRIMARY PREVENTION SERVICES

RECOMMENDATION: Approve Request for Proposals for Primary Prevention Services and authorize the Department of Behavioral Health to release the Request for Proposals for the service period July 1, 2004 through June 30, 2007.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Approval of this item will allow the Department of Behavioral Health (DBH) to solicit proposals to provide programs to prevent alcohol and drug use and abuse.

In 1998, the U.S. Department of Education and the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention proposed that funds allocated for alcohol and drug prevention be awarded to programs that are scientifically defensible and performance-based. DBH has discovered that community-based agencies have an established rapport with community residents and are often best-suited to assist community residents with alcohol and drug-related problems. This may include efforts to address influences which encourage or enable alcohol or drug misuse; to reinforce responsible social attitudes and policies regarding alcohol and drug-related issues; and to stimulate interest and involvement among the leaders of business, government, community groups and local residents in the prevention of alcohol and drug-related problems.

DBH has contracted with community-based agencies to provide primary prevention services for over 20 years. There are currently twenty-three (23) agencies providing primary prevention services. On June 24, 2003, the Board approved the extension of primary prevention contracts until June 30, 2004 so that DBH could develop and release an RFP in accordance with the County's standard procurement policy.

Development of this RFP was a collaborative effort involving DBH and the Human Services System (HSS) Contracts Unit. The RFP will be formally advertised via direct mailings to agencies that currently provide prevention services and agencies that have expressed an interest in providing this type of service, newspaper advertisements, and Internet postings. Any recommendations which may result from analysis of RFP responses will be presented to the Board of Supervisors for final approval.

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REVIEW AND APPROVAL BY OTHERS: This item has been reviewed by HSS Contracts (Lori Ciabattini, Administrative Supervisor, (909) 388-0253) on January 22, 2004; the Office of County Counsel (Charles Larkin, Deputy County Counsel, (909) 387- 5433) on January 26, 2004; and the County Administrative Office (Tom DeSantis, Deputy Administrative Officer, (909) 388-0247 and Carol Hughes, Administrative Analyst, (909) 388-0211) on January 26, 2004.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: There is no financial impact for the release of this RFP. Resultant contracts will allow DBH to contract with agencies to provide prevention services to County residents in an annual amount not to exceed \$2,218,620 for the period July 1, 2004 through June 30, 2007. Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant funds will be used to pay 100% of the costs associated with these services. These funds are allocated in September of each year, and their acceptance by the County is integrated into the annual budget review and approval process.

Funding in the amount of \$2,218,620 will be included in the Department's proposed budgets for Fiscal Year 2004-2005, 2005-2006, and 2006-2007. No local cost will be required.

COST REDUCTION REVIEW: The County Administrative Office has reviewed this agenda item and recommends approval as it will impose no local cost to the County and will result in increased primary prevention services for residents of San Bernardino County.

SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT(S): All

PRESENTER: Rudy Lopez, Director, Department of Behavioral Health, (909) 387-7024